

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

TACHIWAMA

Atty. Ref.: 330-237

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

Filed: May 24, 2001

Examiner:

For: OPTICAL GLASS AND PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OPTICAL PRODUCTS

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May 24, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

7. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 5, which contains, by % by weight, 6 to 9 % of SiO₂, 9 to 12 % of B₂O₃ and 0 to 5 % of GeO₂ and has an SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ total content of 16 to 19 % by weight.

11. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 9, which has a glass composition comprising, by % by weight, 3 to 10 % of SiO₂, 7 to 15 % of B₂O₃, 0 to 5 % of GeO₂, 0 to 15 % of ZnO, 30 to 60 % of La₂O₃, 0 to 30 % of Gd₂O₃, 0 to 10 % of Y₂O₃, 0 to 5 % of Yb₂O₃, 2 to 8 % of ZrO₂ and 13 to 19 % of Ta₂O₅, wherein the total content of SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ is 14 to 20 % by weight, the total content of B₂O₃ and ZnO is at least 9 % by weight and the total content of La₂O₃, Gd₂O₃, Y₂O₃

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and Yb₂O₃ is 50 to 60 % by weight, and further wherein the total content of the above components exceeds 95 % by weight and the glass composition contains 0 to 1 % by weight of Li₂O and 0 to 3 % by weight of Nb₂O₅.

13. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 11, which contains, by % by weight, 6 to 9 % of SiO₂, 9 to 12 % of B₂O₃ and 0 to 5 % of GeO₂ and has an SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ total content of 16 to 19 % by weight.

17. (Amended) A glass preform made of the optical glass recited in claim 1.

18. (Amended) An optical product made of the optical glass recited in claim 1.

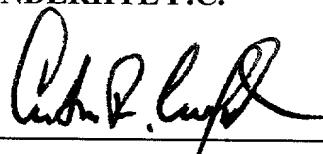
REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

7. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 5 [or 6], which contains, by % by weight, 6 to 9 % of SiO₂, 9 to 12 % of B₂O₃ and 0 to 5 % of GeO₂ and has an SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ total content of 16 to 19 % by weight.

11. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 9 [or 10], which has a glass composition comprising, by % by weight, 3 to 10 % of SiO₂, 7 to 15 % of B₂O₃, 0 to 5 % of GeO₂, 0 to 15 % of ZnO, 30 to 60 % of La₂O₃, 0 to 30 % of Gd₂O₃, 0 to 10 % of Y₂O₃, 0 to 5 % of Yb₂O₃, 2 to 8 % of ZrO₂ and 13 to 19 % of Ta₂O₅, wherein the total content of SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ is 14 to 20 % by weight, the total content of B₂O₃ and ZnO is at least 9 % by weight and the total content of La₂O₃, Gd₂O₃, Y₂O₃ and Yb₂O₃ is 50 to 60 % by weight, and further wherein the total content of the above components exceeds 95 % by weight and the glass composition contains 0 to 1 % by weight of Li₂O and 0 to 3 % by weight of Nb₂O₅.

13. (Amended) The optical glass of claim 11 [or 12], which contains, by % by weight, 6 to 9 % of SiO₂, 9 to 12 % of B₂O₃ and 0 to 5 % of GeO₂ and has an SiO₂, B₂O₃ and GeO₂ total content of 16 to 19 % by weight.

17. (Amended) A glass preform made of the optical glass recited in claim 1[, 9, 10 or 14].

18. (Amended) An optical product made of the optical glass recited in claim 1[, 9, 10 or 14].